

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 7 and 21 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1, 6, 8, 11 and 18-20 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:  
a chamber which encloses an equipment; and  
an air conditioner for controlling a supply of air supplied into said chamber, said air conditioner including (i) a refrigerator having a compressor and a condenser, and using a refrigerant, (ii) a first heat exchanger for exchanging heat between the refrigerant and a coolant, (iii) a second heat exchanger for exchanging heat between the coolant and the supply of air supplied into said chamber, and (iv) an electric heater, having a temperature sensor, for heating the supply of air at a predetermined temperature, wherein  
~~the refrigerant in a gaseous state is circulated through said first heat exchanger, said compressor and said condenser, and~~  
~~the refrigerant gas cools the coolant, in said first heat exchanger, and is subsequently compressed by said compressor and its temperature is raised thereby, and wherein~~  
~~the temperature-raised refrigerant gas is heat-exchanged with cooling water by said condenser, whereby it is cooled and liquified, and~~  
~~wherein the coolant comprises a liquid and is circulated between said first and second heat exchangers~~  
wherein said second heat exchanger is disposed in a first housing proximate to said chamber, and said refrigerator and said first heat exchanger are disposed in a second housing separate from said chamber.

2. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said air conditioner further includes an air blower.
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said first heat exchanger comprises an evaporator.
5. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said refrigerator comprises a compressor and a condenser.
6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a reservoir and a pump ~~provided~~ operably connected between said first and second heat exchangers.
7. (Cancelled).
8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~according to Claim 7~~, comprising:  
a chamber which encloses equipment; and  
an air conditioner for controlling a supply of air supplied into said  
chamber, said air conditioner including (i) a refrigerator having a compressor and a condenser,  
and using a refrigerant, (ii) a first heat exchanger for exchanging heat between the refrigerant and  
a coolant, (iii) a second heat exchanger for exchanging heat between the coolant and the supply

of air supplied into said chamber, and (iv) an electric heater, having a temperature sensor, for heating the supply of air at a predetermined temperature,

the refrigerant in a gaseous state is circulated through said first heat exchanger, said compressor and said condenser,

the refrigerant gas cools the coolant, in said first heat exchanger, and is subsequently compressed by said compressor and its temperature is raised thereby, and wherein

the temperature-raised refrigerant gas is heat-exchanged with cooling water by said condenser, whereby it is cooled and liquified, and

wherein the coolant comprises a liquid and is circulated between said first and second heat exchangers,

wherein said second heat exchanger is disposed adjacent in a first housing proximate to said chamber, and wherein said refrigerator and said first heat exchanger are disposed separately in a second housing separate from said chamber.

9. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the coolant is selected from the group consisting of water, an anti-freeze liquid, and a fluoride inert liquid.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 8, wherein said equipment is at least one ~~of an~~ piece of equipment chosen from a group consisting of an exposure apparatus, an inspection apparatus and a measuring apparatus.

Claims 12-17. (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 11, wherein the ~~semiconductor manufacturing equipment~~ exposure apparatus is a semiconductor exposure apparatus.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein the inspection ~~equipment~~ apparatus is a mask inspection ~~equipment~~ apparatus.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein the measuring ~~equipment~~ apparatus is a laser interferometer.

21. (Cancelled).

Please add Claims 22-27 as follows:

22. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said air conditioner further includes an air blower.

23. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said first heat exchanger comprises an evaporator.

24. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said refrigerator comprises a compressor and a condenser.

25. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, further comprising a reservoir and a pump operably connected between said first and second heat exchangers.

26. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the coolant is selected from a group consisting of water, anti-freeze liquid, and fluoride inert liquid.

27. (New) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said equipment is at least one piece of equipment chosen from a group consisting of exposure apparatus, inspection apparatus and measuring apparatus.